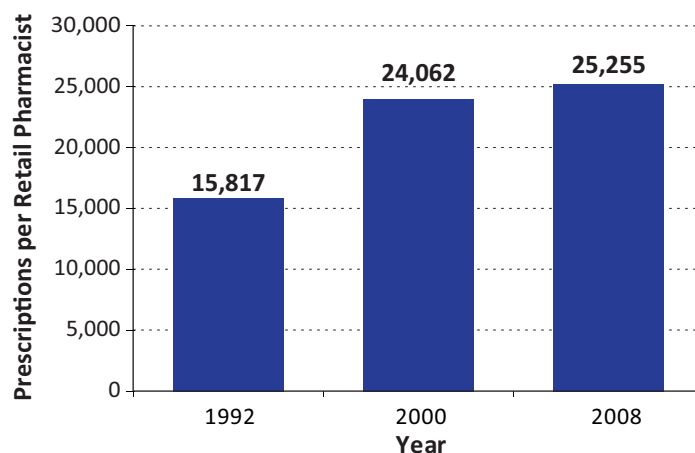


per hour. Assuming that pharmacists, on average, work about 2,000 hours annually, North Carolina pharmacists filled about 12.0 prescriptions per hour in 2000 (or 144 per 12-hour day),⁹ and in 2008, they filled 13.0 prescriptions per hour (152 per 12-hour day).¹¹ However, the workload for retail pharmacists is not evenly distributed among the state, ranging from 1.3 prescriptions per hour (Gates county) to 39.8 prescriptions per hour (Orange county).

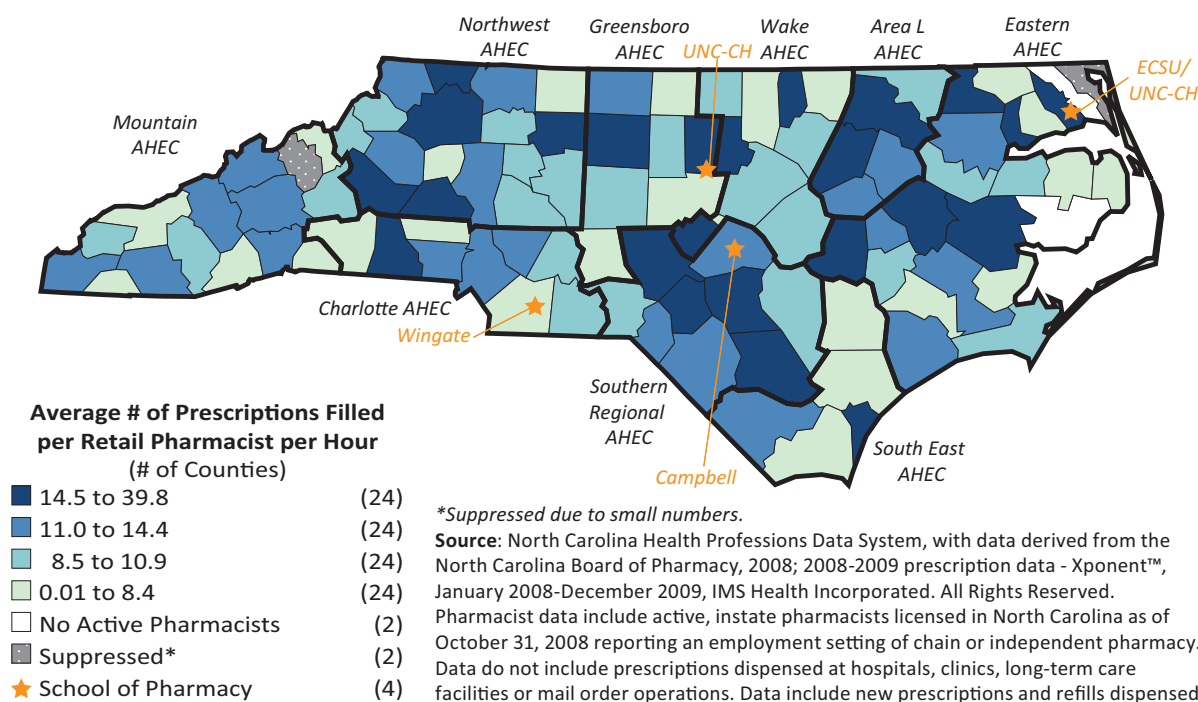
The map in **Figure 20** shows the average number of retail prescriptions filled per retail pharmacist per hour by North Carolina county in 2008. Due to small cell sizes and to protect confidentiality, data for Camden, Currituck, Hyde, and Yancey counties were omitted from the map.

Figure 19. Annual Retail Prescriptions Dispensed per Active, Instate Retail Pharmacist North Carolina, 1992 to 2008



Source: North Carolina Health Professions Data System, with data derived from the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy, 2008; 2008 prescription data - Xponent™, January 2008-December 2008, IMS Health Incorporated. All Rights Reserved. Pharmacist data include active, instate pharmacists licensed in North Carolina as of October 31, 2008 reporting an employment setting of chain or independent pharmacy. Data do not include prescriptions dispensed at hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities or mail order operations. Data include new prescriptions and refills dispensed. 1992-2000 prescription data: Fraher EP, Smith LM, Dyson S, Ricketts TC. August 2002. "Figure 17. Annual Retail Prescriptions Dispensed Per Retail Pharmacist, US and NC, 1991-2000" (pg. 35). In *The Pharmacist Workforce in North Carolina*. Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research.

Figure 20. Average Number of Retail Prescriptions Filled per Retail Pharmacist per Hour North Carolina, 2008



¹¹ Average hours worked per year is based on a 40 hour work week for 50 weeks per year, as used in Fraher EP, Smith LM, Dyson S, Ricketts TC. August 2002. *The Pharmacist Workforce in North Carolina*. Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research. See Data and Methodology section for additional information.